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For many years in England, for a few here, biologists and social students have increasingly felt that the time was close at hand when some attention should be paid to Eugenics. Modern biology has discovered so much—is apparently on the eve of larger discoveries—of the processes of heredity that practical application must follow. These discoveries Professor Kellicott has outlined and the evidence offered will be of great interest to the general student. A large number of tables and charts are given. One does not need to be a biologist to follow the author though in a few places—for instance where he is discussing the biometrical work of Pearson and Galton I fear he is a bit abstruse. At times the text is loose jointed. Apart from these minor defects the volume is to be highly commended. There must be many in this country who have heard enough of these questions to wish some more general statement. To such this book will be welcome.

Professor Kellicott is, in biology, a follower of Mendel and De Vries yet he does not hide the fact that there is still much disagreement about some of the questions involved nor the universal ignorance about many matters of great importance. He may perhaps overestimate the extent to which social conditions result in the restriction of the birth rate among the physically competent and further it among the unfit. That there is a great reproduction of the unfit which should be prevented is unquestionable and the author's evidence and arguments are to the point. His caution that we must not expect to change the nature of people merely by changing life conditions is pertinent and timely. His plea that the development of the race should be conscious is indicative of the newer attitude.

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**McCall, S. W.** *The Business of Congress.* Pp. vii, 215. Price, \$1.50. New York: Columbia University Press, 1911.

This volume presents in revised form a course of lectures delivered by the author before Columbia University during the winter of 1908-09. It embodies a detailed analysis of the process of legislation in the houses of Congress. The important changes in the rules made between the time of the lectures and the convening of the Sixty-second Congress are given in footnotes. The book belongs to that class of works which seek to determine the practice of our governing bodies, rather than the theory or constitutional law of their functions and inter-relations. Every such corrective of misleading ideas so frequently derived from the latter, and more common, type of treatment, is to be welcomed. And though the sum of information here presented does not add greatly to what may be separately obtained from such works as Follet's "Speaker" and McConachie's "Congressional Committees," it is convenient to have this information compressed into one volume. Moreover, the author is able to illuminate his account by observations from his own experience in the lower house. At the same time, the fact that his experience had been with a party so long in control of Congress, may explain the generally vindictory attitude with which he regards

those elements of procedure that offer such serviceable tools to the majority in summarily over-riding the minority. It is not to be objected that he has pointed out that a potentially restrictive procedure is inevitable in a body of the size and character of our lower house. But it does not seem impossible that statesmen may yet develop a procedure which will be able to circumvent mere selfishly partisan obstruction, and at the same time leave opportunity for individual responsibility and truly deliberative discussion.

We miss also in these lectures an explanation of the determining influence which the development of procedure has had in modifying the nature of our government as to source and method of political control; to what extent, for example, the speaker, or the committees, are agencies of party government, or means of Congressional supremacy along certain lines.

However, in the final chapter, on "Results," we have interesting criticism upon certain other tendencies—notably, the extravagance of Congress, and the extension of executive power in legislation. Furthermore, his argument in support of a suggestion for the admission of cabinet members to the floors of Congress, with all essential privileges of members, save that of voting, seems solid.

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**McFarland, Raymond.** *A History of the New England Fisheries.* Pp. 457. Price, \$2.00. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1911.

Few phases of industry in this country have had greater historical significance than that which attaches to the New England fishing interests. For New England itself the fisheries were long of great economic importance, and for some large districts they still exert much influence over the life of the people. The history of some of the larger phases of the industry as the whale fishery, has been told by various authors, but no one has heretofore covered the many lesser branches. Unavailable government reports have been about the only literature on these subjects.

This volume begins with a survey of the fishing grounds of the North Atlantic, discusses briefly the pre-colonial fishing in those waters, and then traces the history of the industry down to the present time. Special chapters are devoted to the fisheries for herring, shell fish, mackerel and cod, to the methods of inshore and of deep sea fishing, to the decadence of deep sea fishing, to the evolution of the modern fishing vessel, and to the century old fisheries question. Maps showing various fishing grounds and the privileges acquired by the treaty of 1818 supplement the text. There is a bibliography of nearly thirty pages, an appendix presenting various tables of statistics, and a very welcome addition of the award of the Hague tribunal on the Atlantic coast fisheries question.

Out of a tremendous mass of detail, from records and sources not always readily available, the author has added a most interesting volume to the studies in the history of this country. The student of history or of economic